nette Piccard of Minneapolis.

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Ray Held 'Fall Guy'

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference, founded by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., yesterday called King's convicted murderer "the fall guy" for wealthy interests and urged a new trial for James Earl Ray.

In a two-page statement, the SCIC said it was convinced that the civil rights leader was killed by a conspiracy and that a new trial is needed to get to "the big fish."

Ray pleaded guilty to the April 1968 slaying but has asked for a new trial, contending that he was pressured into the plea by his lawyer and wants to change it.